

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25  
1200 S. Dunton Ave.  
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

School Board Meeting Minutes  
September 29, 2026

Greg Scapillato, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. The meeting was held at the Dunton Administration Building, 1200 S. Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Roll call was noted.

Board members present: Melissa Buchberger, Brian Cerniglia, Kevin Michael, Elizabeth Nierman, Greg Scapillato, and Deb Tranter

Board members excused: Dr. Anisha Jogee

Others Present: Dr. Brian Kaye, Superintendent

**Motion:** E. Nierman moved and K. Michael seconded that the Board of Education adjourn into closed session to discuss: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity, 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1); Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21); Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the closed meeting minutes. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11); Student disciplinary cases, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9).

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; Cerniglia, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

**Public Hearing on the Budget**

Mr. Scapillato called the Public Hearing on the Budget to order at 7:05 p.m. He asked if anyone present was there for the Public Hearing, and noted that in compliance with legal requirements, the tentative budget was presented at the previous Board meeting, and has been posted on the district website. Since there were no questions or comments on the budget, Mr. Scapillato adjourned the Public Hearing on the 2026-2027 Budget.

The Board returned to open session at 7:06 p.m. Roll call was noted and the Pledge of Allegiance led by SSAC student members.

Board members present: Melissa Buchberger, Brian Cerniglia, Kevin Michael, Elizabeth Nierman, Greg Scapillato, and Deb Tranter

Board members excused: Dr Anisha Jogee

Others Present: Dr. Brian Kaye, Superintendent; Stacey Mallek, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Diane Kaffka, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Kendra Perri, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel and Planning; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Storytelling; Katie Paulson, Director of Technology; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; and Diane Carpenter, Recording Secretary; staff; and community.

Recognitions and Presentations - Ms. Perri congratulated the tenured teachers on their commitment to teaching. Mr. Scapillato, on behalf of the Board, and Dr. Kaye presented certificates and congratulated the newly tenured teachers.

Dryden

Kelly Considine

Ashley DaSilva

Alison Kropf

Justin Post

Georgia Sambanis

Emma Tuttle

Erin Parker

Danica Stassen (Dani)

Tina Purdy

Taylor Reitz

Greenbrier

Melissa Sherman

Elle Weber

Patton

Maureen Fallon

Abigail Groh

Danielle Hiller

Allison Vercimak

Hannah Zimmerman

Ivy Hill

Rebecca Dahm

Bridget Dillon

Kelley Costello

Lauren Fox

Rachael Ross

South

Nicole Barbieri

Allison Buck

Jillian Bugos

Kenneth Cook

Benjamin Courtney

Timothy Evans

Miranda Fanella

Thomas

Mary Carol Connors

Michelle Gledhill

Anayeli Mendoza Gomez

Michael Kain

Matthew Majeski

Meghan Weck

Olive

Marissa Duric

Ariel Schonfeld

Westgate

Kourtney Arreguin

Hannah Golaris

Abigail Horn

Falak Najam

Windsor

Mia Faraci

Kristin Ikezawa

Anna Klaw

Taylor LaFayette

Allison Nickeas

Amy Reed

#### Communications from District Partners-

- PTA – Dr. Joshi Soni reported that the PTA council meeting was held on September 14<sup>th</sup>. On a council level Pack the Piggies Fundraiser has started at all nine school to raise money for student scholarships. Several schools held events including Fall socials, fun runs and movie nights.
- ABC25 Foundation – no report
- ATA – Ms. Berg reported on various activities across the schools including the Westgate Garden club, South Middle School Golf and Cross-Country team achievements, and Windsor's various student clubs with 300 participants.

Student Voice- Fifth graders from Dryden Elementary and Eighth graders from South Middle School reported on the SSAC's first meeting, and shared what it means to be on SSAC and some of their experiences about SSAC. Dr Kaye thanked the SSAC members for reporting today. Several Board members also thanked the panel, and reflected on their report.

#### Community Input

- Jennifer Hahne addressed the Board on Technology and appreciates that more books and paper coming home.
- Erika Pace addressed the Board on Digital platforms for reading, and questioned if Lightspeed date collection is being analyzed. She thanked the district for listening and the positive steps the district is taking regarding Technology
- Melissa Meagher addressed the Board regarding educational technology use in the classroom.

#### Board Communications:

##### Board Member Updates

- IASB/COSSBA – Ms. Buchberger attended COSSBA. She highlighted issues discussed when she met with Congress.

- Legislative Report – ED-RED – Mr. Michael reported on several upcoming legislative bills that affect education and the potential impact on Public School funding. He will be attending the ED-RED kickoff luncheon on October 16, 2026.
- NSSEO – Ms. Buchberger reported that at the September 2<sup>nd</sup> NSSEO meeting the Shining Star recognition celebration was held, which included a District 25 student. NSSEO Approved the resolution on immigration enforcement. NSSEO celebrated 21 tenured teachers and the Long-Term Facility plan was presented, including the Miner lease.

#### Consent Agenda

**Motion:** That the Board of Education approve those items on the Consent Agenda as follows: (A) Personnel Report and Addendum to Personnel Report; (B) Treasurer's Report (C) Invoices;(D) Closed and Open Minutes.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B Cerniglia, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 6/0

Student Learning – No report

Student Services – No report

#### Business and Finance

Ms. Mallek put forth a vote for the 2026-27 Final Legal Budget.

**Motion:** Nierman moved and Michael seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the Resolution.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; B. Cerniglia, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

#### Business and Finance

Ms. Mallek presented EIS Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits Report which must be presented to the Board before it is posted on the website by October 1.

Ms. Mallek presented Administrator Compensation Report Public Act 96-0434 which must be presented to the Board before it is posted on the website by October 1.

Facilities Management – Mr. Shulz presented the 5yr Facilities Master Plan. The annual report focused on the next two years, and highlighted safety as the priority, building needs, the projected budget and construction costs. Board members asked questions about priorities.

#### Personnel and Planning

Ms. Perri presented the 6<sup>th</sup> Day Enrollment report for August 27, 2026, a consistent data point to assess data from year to year. She explained district enrollment data and trends.

#### Superintendent Report

##### Superintendent Update Dr Kaye

Dr. Kaye reviewed the Technology overnight access option, gave an overview of the 5 Essentials, and a SSAC recap of the first meeting and the working agreement. Board Member Ms. Buchberger thanked Dr. Kaye for this opportunity for students.

#### FOIAs 16 FOIAs

- Lee Bennett requested information on Athletic participation; a response was provided on August 19, 2026.
- Lee Bennett requested information on Athletic tryouts; a response was provided on August 19, 2026.
- Lee Bennett requested information on Athletic tryouts; a response was provided on August 20, 2026.
- Lee Bennett requested information on the Athletic constitution and rules; a response was provided on August 28, 2026.
- Neli Tujarova requested information on transportation and bus routing for Thomas Middle School; a response was provided on August 25, 2026.
- CT Mills requested information on the Central Office direct work phone numbers; a response was provided on August 31, 2026.
- William Boodro requested information on the 2023 Monarch Construction bid; a response was provided on September 2, 2026.
- Neli Tujarova requested information on transportation and bus routing for Thomas Middle School; a response was provided on September 3, 2026.
- Darina Yakimec requested information on Classroom Concepts; a response was provided on September 4, 2026.
- Cari Klinkenborg requested information on Middle School ELA; a response was provided on September 8, 2026.
- Darina Yakimec requested information on Reading Instruction; a response was provided on September 11, 2026.
- Thomas Mundy requested information on Purchasing records; a response was provided on September 15, 2026.
- William Boodro requested information on the 2023 Monarch Construction bid; a response was provided on September 15, 2026.

- Craig Niemiec requested information on the Integrated Services Program; a response was provided on September 16, 2026.
- Justin Wenig requested information on Purchasing records; a response was provided on September 17, 2026.
- Oshea Smith requested information on Purchasing records; a response was provided on September 17, 2026.

Superintendent Update Learning Environment Goal

Ms. Kaffka presented the Student Services BOE Strategic Plan update for the next five years explaining the five goals of the Inclusive Learning Environment Goal. Ms. Kaffka explained the next steps framework.

Community Input – None

Future Agenda Items – None

Topics with Dates to be Determined – None

New Topics – None

**Motion:** E. Nierman moved and K. Michael seconded that the Board of Education adjourn the regular meeting.

Roll Call: M. Buchberger, yes; A. Jogee, yes; K. Michael, yes; E. Nierman, yes; G. Scapillato, yes; and D. Tranter, yes. Motion carried 6/0.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Submitted,



Diane K. Carpenter  
Recording Secretary

Approved:

  
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President  
Board of Education

  
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Secretary  
Board of Education

Date minutes available for public inspection:

October 21, 2026

Date minutes posted on District website:

October 21, 2026